



City of Alexandria, VA

City Hall, 301 King St. Room 3500, Alexandria, VA 22314

eNews

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 1, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jack Browand, Director, Marketing, Public
Relations and Special Events, at 703.746.5504

Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities programs and activities' announcement for the month of December 2009:

- Community & Special Events
- 2009 Holiday Concerts
- Out of School Time Programs
- Early Morning Fitness at Charles Houston
- Ad Hoc Fort Ward Park and Museum Area Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting
- Arts in Alexandria
- Youth Sports
- Commission & Committee Meetings
- Dispatches from the Front

For additional information, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation or call 703.746.4343.

COMMUNITY & SPECIAL EVENTS

December 5

Holiday on the Avenue

Parking lot at Nick Colasanto Art Center, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave. at Dusk

Sponsor: Delray Business Association

For information, call Pat Miller at 703.683.2570 or email pmiller1806@comcast.net

December 5

39th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk

Historic Old Town Alexandria at 10:30 am

Cosponsors: The City of Alexandria, Campagna Center, and St. Andrew's Society.

For information, call June Geoffrey 703.549.0111, ext. 113 or visit www.campagnacenter.org

December 6

Toys for Tots 35th Annual Benefit Round and Square Dance

"Gonna Thrive at Thirty-Five

Lee Center Exhibit Hall, 1108 Jefferson St. from 1-5 pm

Sponsor: City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities in cooperation with the United States Marine Corps Reserve. Advertising contributed and program supported by the National Capital Area Square Dance Leaders Association and Washington Area Square Dance Cooperative

Association and coordinated by Jim Wass.

For information, call the Events Hotline at 703.883.4686 or the Special Events Office at 703.746.5418.

December 12

Christmas in Camp Open House

Ft. Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Rd. at 5 pm

Sponsor: City of Alexandria

For information, call Susan Cumbey at 703.838.4848 or email susan.cumbey@alexandriava.gov

December 12

Cheerleading Exhibition

T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. at 11 am

Sponsor: Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

For information, call 703.838.4345 or email mac.slover@alexandriava.gov.

December 31

First Night Alexandria

Historic Old Town Alexandria from 6 pm-midnight

Sponsor: First Night Alexandria Board of Directors

For information, email adorman@firstnightalexandria.org or visit www.firstnightalexandria.org

2009 HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Saturday, December 5

- Market Square, 301 King St.
The Family Choir of Beth El Hebrew Congregation (Hanukah Favorites) at 2 pm

Sunday, December 6

- Market Square, 301 King St.
Shir Tze'ir (Jewish a cappella) at 2 pm

Friday, December 11

- Market Square, 301 King St.
Thomas Jefferson High School Chorus (Caroling) at 7 pm
- Torpedo Factory Arcade, King & Union Sts.
Thomas Jefferson High School Chorus (Holiday Caroling) at 8 pm

Saturday, December 12

- Market Square, 301 King St.
Bell's Angels, St. John's Lutheran Church Handbell Choir (Holiday) at 1 pm
Alexandria Harmonizers (Barbershop Holiday) at 2 pm

Sunday, December 13

- Market Square, 301 King St.
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Handbell Choir (Holiday) at 2 pm
Alexandria Singers (Choral Holiday) at 3 pm

OUT OF SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM

Registration for the Out of School Time Program for the 2009-2010 School Year is currently open for children youth ages 5 (enrolled in Kindergarten) -12, and Preteens and Teens in grades 6 – 8. The Out of School Time Program operates at the seven neighborhood recreation centers and five school sites (John Adams, Douglas MacArthur, Durant/Houston, George Washington Middle School, and Francis C. Hammond Middle School). Beginning this fall, participants will be charged a \$25 activity fee per semester (Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer). A Fee Assistance Program is available for eligible families. To register, visit your neighborhood recreation center. Click here for a list of neighborhood recreation centers. For additional information, call Recreation Services at 703.838.4345.

EARLY MORNING FITNESS AT CHARLES HOUSTON

The Department of Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities provides early morning fitness and recreation opportunities, Monday through Friday, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Participants have access to the center's fitness room, game room, gymnasium and computer lab. Single and multi visit admission passes are available for purchase. For additional information, call 703.746.5552 or email Sheila.whiting@alexandriava.gov.

AD HOC FORT WARD PARK AND MUSEUM AREA STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

The Ad Hoc Fort Ward Park and Museum Area Stakeholder Advisory Group will hold its first meeting at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Rd., at 7:00 p.m. The Advisory Group, established by City Council resolution in June 2009, will advise the City staff on Fort Ward Park and Museum use and management. Members of the group were appointed by the City Manager in October 2009 based on their commitment to a balanced, multi-use park and historic site in the City, and are representative of the diversity of interests and uses of the park and museum site. For more information, please visit <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation> or call 703.746.5493.

ARTS IN ALEXANDRIA

“Tea & Talk” Sharing Alexandria’s Civil Rights Stories

December 7, 1-3 pm

Please join us at the Charles Houston Recreation Center for tea and conversation. You are invited to share the story of your civil rights experiences in Alexandria and how it was shaped by the Parker-Gray School and Charles Houston. This event is free of charge but reservations are requested, call 703.746.5588 or e-mail aca@alexandriava.gov by December 4. “Tea and Talk” is an outreach project designed in collaboration with the Alexandria Black History Museum, Parker Gray Alumni Association, Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Charles Houston Memorial Public Art Project’s Selection Panel and Stakeholders Advisory Group, Charles Houston Recreation Center, Parker Gray Alumni Association, and the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities’ Office of the Arts.

Annual Holiday Arts Reception

Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St.

December 9, 6 pm

Sponsored by the Alexandria Arts Forum and the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, tickets are available at a discount for \$15 by Wednesday, December 2. Call Tina Barry at 703.683.5778, ext. 1 for additional information.

Pandora’s Box

December 10, 5:30-8 pm

Local youth from the new Charles Houston Recreation Center will create a large group artwork piece in conjunction with the Torpedo Factory Art Center's Target Gallery national exhibition Pandora's Box . The piece will be displayed at the Torpedo Factory and celebrated with a reception. For additional information, call 703.746.5588.

Call for Nominations for the City of Alexandria Poet Laureate

The Office of the Arts has issued a call for applications to serve as the City's Poet Laureate. The role of the Poet Laureate is to foster an appreciation of poetry as an art form, encourage creative writing and reading, and promote literacy through poetry. The Poet Laureate is appointed to a three-year term and receives a modest honorarium.

Individuals can nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else. Nominees must distinguish themselves in the field of poetry through the body of work they have created; be a resident of the City for a minimum of one year and maintain residency through the three-year term of service; accept the Poet Laureate post as a ceremonial role, and be 18 years of age or older. All nominations must be submitted to the Office of the Arts, c/o the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria, VA 22314, by 5 pm on Monday, January 11, 2010. The new Poet Laureate will be named in March 2010.

YOUTH SPORTS

The Department's Alexandria Titans Youth Football Program hosted four championship games on Saturday, November 14 at T.C. Williams High School's Parker Gray Stadium. The Titan program participates in the Fairfax County Youth Football League (FCYFL) along with 25 other clubs, 360 teams and over 6,500 participants from the Northern Virginia area including Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Prince William County and Alexandria. Seven of 13 Titan teams made the playoffs. Three teams advanced to the championships representing Alexandria in the FCYFL finals. For additional information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

- Anklebiters Division 8
Gainesville Grizzlies - 13 vs Alexandria Titans - 6
- 75 National Division
Alexandria Titans - 20 (Division Champion) vs Braddock Road Wolfpack – 6
- 85 National Division
Alexandria Titans - 31 (Division Champion) vs Ft. Belvoir Bulldogs – 7

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All commission and committee meetings are open to the public. For additional information, call 703.746.5500.

December 15

Alexandria Waterfront Committee, 7:30 am
Lee Center 1108 Jefferson St.

December 15

Commission for the Arts, 7 pm
Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St.

Alexandria Beautification Commission
No meeting scheduled.

Park and Recreation Commission
No meeting scheduled.

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT

"Dispatches from the Front" is the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Park Operations & Park Planning newsletter reporting on current issues, activities and updates on park projects. To view the current issue, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation.

The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the City's Human Rights Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation or to request materials in an alternative format, call the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities at 703.746.4343 (TTY 703.838.4902).